

In The Specification:

On page 1, line 2, please replace "claims priority to" with "claims the benefit of".

In the Summary of the Invention section, please delete page 4, line 24, through page 9, line 30, and insert the following:

In response to the difficulties and problems discussed above, new prefastened, pant-like disposable absorbent articles that have simplified and improved primary fasteners for forming the prefastened absorbent articles have been invented. As previously described, a common fastening feature for absorbent articles is to provide a hook component and a corresponding loop component for securing the back waist region to the front waist region of the absorbent article. The present invention is directed in part to multiple property fasteners. The multiple property fasteners of the invention provide multiple features such as reliable engagement and skin friendliness (or reduced abrasiveness) in a single fastener.

The present invention is directed to a pant-like, prefastened, disposable absorbent article. The article includes an absorbent, a front waist region, a back waist region and a crotch region that extends between and connects the waist regions. In addition the article includes a longitudinal direction, a lateral direction, an exterior surface and an interior surface opposite the exterior surface. The article also includes a pair of laterally opposed side edges and a pair of longitudinally opposed waist edges. Further the absorbent article includes a multiple property fastener. The multiple property fastener defines a fastener longitudinal direction, a fastener lateral direction and a fastener area. The multiple property fastener further includes at least one engagement zone of a first mechanical fastening material and at least one non-abrasive zone of a second mechanical fastening material. Additionally, the multiple property fastener is oversized to provide stability between the front waist region and the back waist region and to maintain the pant-like, prefastened configuration.

In another aspect of the present invention, the article may include one engagement zone covering one half of the fastener area in the fastener longitudinal direction and one non-abrasive zone covering the other half of the fastener area in the fastener longitudinal direction.

In another aspect of the present invention, the first mechanical fastening material is made from a polypropylene copolymer. Alternatively the second mechanical fastening material is made from a polymer selected from elastomeric thermoplastic polymers and metallocene catalyzed polymers.

In another aspect of the present invention the multiple property fastener is engageable into the front waist region of the article. Alternatively the multiple property fastener is engageable into the back waist region of the article.

In yet another aspect of the present invention the multiple property fastener has a top edge that is generally aligned with one of the waist edges of the article.

On page 10, lines 15-16, please delete "and with portions of the article partially cut away to show the underlying features".

On page 10, line 17, please replace "Fig. 4" with "Figs. 4A – 4I".

On page 10, line 33, please insert "partial" before "plan".

On page 32, line 24, please insert "The distance between the oversized multiple property fastener 60 and the waist edge 32 is indicated in Fig. 8 by reference numeral '79'." after "article.".